

NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

Contact: Janice Walker | (402) 471-3730 | www.supremecourt.ne.gov

July 30, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SECOND AMENDED PRESS RELEASE

The Judicial Resources Commission will hold a public hearing pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 24-1204 to:

(1) Determine whether, based on the judicial workload statistics, a judicial vacancy exists in the office of county judge of the 8th Judicial District, due to the death of the Honorable August F. Schuman, and make a recommendation to the Supreme Court as to the principal place of office of said vacancy.

(2) Consider the request of District Judge Paul D. Merritt, Jr., for the addition of an 8th judgeship in the district court of the 3rd Judicial District.

(3) Consider the request of the county judges of the 3rd Judicial District that the vacancy in the office of county judge of the 8th Judicial District by reason of the death of the Honorable August F. Schuman not be filled, and the request that the Judicial Resources Commission recommend to the Legislature that an additional judgeship be created in the county court of the 3rd Judicial District.

The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, August 12, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., central time. The hearing will be held via video conferencing from the State Capitol Building, Room 1524, Lincoln, Nebraska, and will include participation from the Panhandle Learning Center, 4502 Ave. I, High Plains Room, Scottsbluff, Nebraska; from the State Office Building, Room 207, Second Floor, 1313 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska; from the Hastings Public Library, Second Floor, 517 West 4th Street, Hastings, Nebraska; and from the Cherry County Cooperative Extension Office, 132 S. Hall St., Ste. 1, Valentine, Nebraska.

The Commission makes its determination based on weighted caseloads, adequate access to the courts by litigants, population, judicial duties, travel time and other factors necessary to assure efficiency and service of the court system.

Following the hearing, the commission will make a recommendation to the Legislature of their determination.

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Commission members are:

Supreme Court Justice Michael McCormack, Chairperson	
Alan L. Brodbeck, O'Neill	Robert P. Chaloupka, Scottsbluff
Robert B. O'Neal, Papillion	Riko E. Bishop, Lincoln
Thomas F. Hoarty, Omaha	Ronald Furse, Aurora
Jolanda J. Kuzma, Lincoln	Nicole R. Neesen, Omaha
Jane Morgan, Gordon	Mark M. Sipple, Columbus
Gerald E. Moran, Omaha	Robert J. Parker, Hastings
Margie A. Smith, Bellevue	Patricia McQuillan, Greeley
Sharlon Rodgers, Omaha	D. Paul Hartnett, Bellevue

Any member of the public is entitled to attend the Nebraska Judicial Resources Commission hearing in Room 1524 of the State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska, or at any of the video conferencing sites, and present, either orally or in writing, any pertinent information concerning the existence of a judicial vacancy. If anyone wishes to present written material at the hearing, a copy of such material should be furnished to the Chairperson at least one week prior to the hearing.

If there are any requests you intend to present to the Commission to consider other than with regard to the above vacancy, you must notify the Chairman, in writing, of this request, no later than two weeks prior to the hearing date as set out above. At the time of the written notification, you should also send to the Chairman 20 copies of any written material you plan to present to the Commission.

For special accommodations relating to the Americans with Disabilities Act, please call (402) 471-3730. For persons with hearing impairments, please call the Nebraska Relay System at 711.

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